

Board of Trustee Workshop

December 6, 2011

The Board of Trustees for the Village of Cold Spring held a workshop meeting on Tuesday, December 6, 2011 beginning at 7:30 pm at the Village Hall, 85 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY.

Attending: Mayor Seth Gallagher, Trustees: Bruce Campbell, J. Ralph Falloon, Charles Hustis, III, and Airinhos Serradas.

Presentations were made by Brenda Cagle, Inventory of the Cold Spring Village Trees; and Paul Guillaro for the Butterfield Hospital Site with Richard O'Rourke, attorney for Mr. Guillaro. Also Vincent Tamagna spoke about enlarging the route of the trolley.

Numerous residents also attended this meeting.

First on the agenda was a hearing for **water shut off notices** for payment in arrears for out-of-village residents. No one attended the meeting regarding this. Most of the residents have contacted the Village office to make arrangement for payment.

Brenda Cagle presented an inventory of the **Village trees**. Her group looked at 555 sites: 437 trees and 118 planting sites. This was very informative noting what trees needed immediate pruning and/or removal and suggestions on what types of trees to replace the removed trees. She also suggested that an arborist look at a few trees.

Paul Guillaro, **Butterfield Realty, LLC (Butterfield)** presented his revised plans for the Butterfield Hospital property. Richard O'Rourke, Mr. Guillaro's attorney, Keane & Beane P.C., gave the Board a Petition for an Amendment of the Zoning Code and Zoning Map in furtherance of Butterfield's proposed re-development plans and a copy of the Long Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) pursuant to the NYS Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA). They requested the Village Board to authorize the circulation of its Notice of Intent to declare itself Lead Agency at its next regular meeting on December 13, 2011. Circulation of this notice is the initial step to "kick off" the formal review of the re-development plans, including the Petition for an Amendment of the Zoning Code and Zoning Map of the Village of Cold Spring. When the Board initiates the petition for Lead Agency, this starts a 30 day clock to hear from other boards.

Trustee Serradas made a motion for Village Attorney, Stephen Gaba, to draft a resolution authorizing the Intention of the Village Board as Lead Agency. This motion was seconded by Trustee Falloon and passed unanimously.

A conference call was held with the NYS Comptroller, Village Attorney, Stephen Gaba, Mayor Gallagher, Trustee J. Ralph Falloon, **Cold Spring Fire Company** President, Mike Bowman and Vice President, John Landolfi. The question of the Fire Company being an independent entity was answered NO and the question of a contract with the Fire Company and Village was answered YES for fees only. There will be a follow-up meeting with the Fire Company next week with Trustees Bruce Campbell and Ralph Falloon. A meeting held one day before the conference call went well. Trustee Falloon feels that things are going well and would like to continue the trend and move forward.

RFPs were received from **accounting firms** Sedore & Company and Toski, Schaefer & Company. The Board members reviewed the proposals and Trustee Serradas made a motion to accept the RFP from Toski, Schaefer & Co. Trustee Hustis made a motion to open the floor for a discussion regarding what both firms have to offer. Mayor Gallagher said that Toski was \$6,000 more a year. Trustee Serradas said you get what you pay for. Trustee Campbell stated that Sedore has been with the Village for years with no major problems at a lesser cost. Trustee Falloon stated that the Village Accountant, Ellen Mageean, had no problem with the present firm and felt there was no justification for the increased cost in changing firms.

Mayor Gallagher asked for a vote on hiring Toski, Schaefer & Co. The vote was 1-4-0 with Trustee Serradas voting yes and the remaining Board members voting no. Mayor Gallagher asked for a vote on keeping Sedore & Co. The vote was 4-1-0 with Trustee Serradas voting no and the remaining Board members voting yes. With a majority vote of 4 -1- 0, it was approved that Sedore & Co. would be the Village Accounting firm.

There will be a second presentation from **Marshall and Sterling Insurance Agency** for the MVP health plan for the Village employees at the Village Office following their work day, making this convenient for the employees. Trustee Serradas is hopeful that the employees will understand everything and get on board with MVP as this will save the Village a great deal of money.

A letter was written by Paul Elconin, Vice President of Friends of Fahnestock and Hudson Highlands State Park (FOFHH), suggesting that the **Village Trolley** route add two (2) possibly three (3) new stops. If they could add a stop at Little Stoney Point and Breakneck Ridge, Mr. Elconin felt that it would enhance pedestrian safety by getting walkers and hikers off Route 9D, cut down on vehicular traffic and bolster the use of mass transit as more people will use public transportation options and bring more people into Cold Spring. He also suggested that perhaps a stop at Fahnestock State Park on Route 301 could be added.

Vinney Tamagna spoke about the possibility of including these stops to the Village Trolley stating that he will look into it. He was definitely in favor of this. He added that perhaps the Village could get someone to ride the Trolley for an hour at a time with a total of 5 persons for the 5 hours that the trolley runs and present what is going on in the Cold Spring area. Perhaps brochures could be printed for use on the Trolley noting sites and also the scheduled stops of the Trolley.

Discussions followed about perhaps adding a stop on the other side of the tunnel. One problem might be that the Trolley is low to the ground and has difficulty turning. Another problem would be that this is Dutchess County and would have to be approved by both Putnam and Dutchess counties before doing this. Again, this would be a pedestrian safety measure keeping hikers from walking on Route 9D which does present a hazard both for passing vehicles and the hikers themselves. It could also cut down on the cars parking along the roadside.

REQUESTS FOR REVISION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Mayor Gallagher read the suggested recommendations from Michael Reisman and Susan Peehl.

Michael Reisman suggested changing 3.5.3 to the following: Recommendation: Study introduction of piped natural gas to the Village, possibly using a utility tax on natural gas to offset some or all costs of a new supply line, while taking into account the potential environmental impacts of natural gas drilling.

Suggestions from Susan Peehl:

- 1) Change the word “alternate” to “alternative” in Comprehensive Plan Summary, bullet 3, page 3.
- 2) Options for 3.5.3:
 - a. Change language to balance the recommendation and recognize the environmental issues, as well as the expense and other concerns, associated with bringing gas pipelines into Cold Spring; “Study introduction of piped natural gas to the Village, taking into account possible environmental and health ramifications (both local and distant), upfront costs associated with new supply lines, and the structural capacity of Cold Spring’s streets to safely accommodate such a system”.
 - b. Same as above but require that the benefits of the supply line be balanced with the startup expense and environmental issues, e.g., “Study introduction of piped natural gas to the Village, weighing potential benefits to the Village against possible environmental and health ramifications (both local and distant), upfront costs associated with new supply lines, and the structural capacity of Cold Spring’s streets to safely accommodate such a system”.
 - c. Delete Recommendation 3.5.3 altogether.

Suggestion from Mayor Gallagher:

3.5.3 Recommendation: Study introduction of piped natural gas to the Village, ~~possibly using a utility tax on natural gas to offset some or all costs of a new supply line~~, while taking into account the potential environmental **and health** impacts of natural gas drilling.

RESULTS of voting regarding the above suggested changes:

On the beginning page of the Comprehensive Plan, the Board agreed that the titles of each Special Board Member begin with a capital letter, as the Village Board Members’ titles begin with a capital letter.

The board agreed to include the list of volunteers (as in the LWRP) and to accept the opening sentence presented by Anne Impellizzeri stating: “Many thanks to the following and all others, including the 326 who responded to the Resident Survey, who helped in many different ways.”

Mayor Gallagher moved to change to 3.5.3 to read: Recommendation: Study introduction of piped natural gas to the Village, ~~possibly using a utility tax on natural gas to offset some or all costs of a new supply line~~, while taking into account the potential environmental **and health** impacts of natural gas drilling. Trustee Hustis seconded the motion and unanimously approved.

Trustee Serradas moved to change the word alternate to alternative in the Comprehensive Plan Summary, bullet 3, page 3. Motion seconded by Trustee Hustis and unanimously approved.

The finalized copy of the Comprehensive Plan will be sent to the Putnam County Planning Board and the Village Planning Board, a public hearing will be scheduled and then action will be taken at the January monthly meeting.

There is a Nelsonville resident who has been charged for **two water services**, one for the primary residence and one for a trailer on the property. The trailer has been empty with no water usage showing on the meter and the resident requested that the Village waive the service fee for that service. Village Attorney, Steve Gaba will be asked to draw up a letter to this resident requesting that they get a plumber to turn off the service to the trailer and have Greg Phillips inspect it after it has been done. When that has been approved by Greg, the Village Board agreed to waive the service fee to the trailer.

Village employee, Scott Monroe, requested 80 hours **vacation pay** in lieu of time off. Trustee Serradas made a motion to approve this request, seconded by Trustee Falloon. The request was approved unanimously.

There was one **bill** for Food Town's escrow account. Trustee Hustis made a motion to pay the bill, seconded by Trustee Falloon, approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra L. Falloon